THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PATENT APPLICATION OF:

SCARTH, G.B., et al.

SERIAL NO:

10/618,604

ART UNIT:

2874

FILING DATE:

15 July 2003

EXAMINER: PAK, Sung H.

Customer No:

29382

SUBJECT:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR OPERATING VARIABLE

OPTICAL ATTENUATOR BY MODULATING THE ATTENUATION

THEREOF

February 07, 2006

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C., 20231, U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

This is a response to the First Office Action mailed on 14 September 2005. Applicants thank the Examiner for the detailed report and request that this application be amended in the following manner:

A Petition for 2 month extension of time; a Declaration under 37 CFR 1.132, and a Terminal Disclaimer are submitted herewith.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS begin on page 5 of this paper.